

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A portable terminal comprising:
 - a first housing having at least a display unit;
 - a second housing having at least a main input unit, and connected openably and closably to said first housing; and
 - an auxiliary input unit arranged on a surface other than mutually facing surfaces of both of said housings in a closed state;
 - wherein said display unit is visible to user in a closed state and an opened state,
 - a screen on said display unit is able to display a first selection screen which is appropriate for an operation by said auxiliary input unit when both of said housings are in a closed state, and
 - a screen on said display unit is able to display a second selection screen which is appropriate for an operation by said main input unit when both of said housings are in an opened state.
2. A portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein said first selection screen arranges items one-dimensionally, and said second selection screen arranges items multi-dimensionally.

3. A portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein items of said first selection screen are characters, and items of said second selection screen are icons.

4. A portable terminal according to claim 1, further comprising:

a state detecting device which detects opening and closing of both of said housings; and

a control device which switches a display screen on said display unit;

wherein said control device switches between said first selection screen and said second selection screen in accordance with a state detected by said state detecting device.

5. A portable terminal according to claim 4, wherein items on said first selection screen are characters while items on said second selection screen are icons, and

when a selection screen has been switched in accordance with an opening action or a closing action from a state in which an item on said first or second selection screen has been selected, said item remains selected in a form of a character or an icon corresponding to said first or second screen.

6. A portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein said main input unit includes a key capable of being two-dimensionally operated, and said

auxiliary input unit includes a lever capable of being one-dimensionally operated.

7. A portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein the portable terminal is a personal digital assistant.

8. A portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein the portable terminal is a portable telephone.

9. A portable terminal comprising:
a first housing having at least a display unit;
a second housing having at least a main input unit, and
connected openably and closably to said first housing; and
an auxiliary input unit arranged on a surface other than
mutually facing surfaces of both of said housings in a closed state;
wherein said display unit is visible to user in a closed state
and an opened state,
a screen on said display unit is able to display a first
selection screen arranging items one-dimensionally when both of said housings
are in a closed state, and
a screen on said display unit is able to display a second
selection screen arranging items multi-dimensionally when both of said
housings are in a opened state.

10. A portable terminal according to claim 9, wherein said main input unit includes a key capable of being two-dimensionally operated, and said auxiliary input unit includes a lever capable of being one-dimensionally operated,

items on said first selection screen can be selected by said lever operation, and items on said second selection screen can be selected by said key operation.

11. A portable terminal according to claim 9, wherein the portable terminal is a personal digital assistant.

12. A portable terminal according to claim 9, wherein the portable terminal is a portable telephone.